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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/421,718	10/20/1999	JOSEPH MICHAEL CHRISTIE	1128C	4530

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SPRINT
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OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-2100

EXAMINER

YAO, KWANG BIN

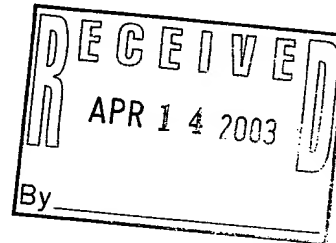
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2664

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2003

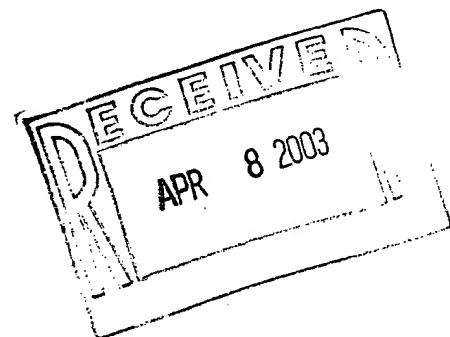
#18

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



FINAL
Due Date: 6/01/03 - 2d mon.
Statutory Deadline: 10/01/03
Date docketed: 4/15/03
Docketed by: ll
See: 1m
Atty: _____

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/421,718

Applicant(s)

CHRISTIE ET AL.

Examiner

Kwang B. Yao

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 11.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 7, 10-18, 21-23, 28, 31-39, 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Reiman et al. (US 5,706,286).

Regarding claims 1, 22, Reiman et al. discloses a telecommunication system comprising the following features: an interworking unit (Fig. 1, REF 14) configured to receive signaling and communications for a call, convert the communications for the call between a first communication format and a second communication format, and transfer the signaling to a signaling converter (Fig. 1, REF 18; Fig. 4, REF 62); the signaling converter (Fig. 1, REF 18; Fig. 4, REF 62) configured to receive the signaling for the call and convert the signaling between a first signaling format and a second signaling format; the signaling processor (Fig. 4, REF 54, 56) coupled to the signaling converter and the interworking unit and configured to receive the signaling in the second signaling format and process the signaling to select a service for the call; and a service platform (Fig. 4, REF 54) coupled to the interworking unit and the signaling processor and configured to provide the selected service for the call. See column 17, line 64 to column 18, line 6.

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Regarding claims 2, 23, Reiman et al. discloses the following features: the first communication format and the first signaling format comprise ISDN. See column 4, line 63.

Regarding claims 7, 28, Reiman et al. discloses the following features: wherein the second signaling format comprises SS7 (Fig. 1 REF 10).

Regarding claims 10-18, 21, 28, 31-39 and 42, Reiman et al. discloses the following features: wherein the selected service comprises collecting information from a caller; wherein the selected service comprises voice messaging; wherein the selected service comprises facsimile messaging; wherein the selected service comprises voice recognition; wherein the selected service comprises conference bridging; wherein the selected service comprises calling card calling; wherein the selected service comprises menu routing ;wherein the selected service comprises tone detection; wherein the selected service comprises call forwarding; wherein the signaling processor is configured to process an initial address message. See column 1-10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3-6, 8, 9, 19, 20, 24-27, 29, 30, 40, 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reiman et al. (US 5,706,286) in view of Budhraj et al. (US 5,935,209).

Reiman et al. discloses the claimed features above. Reiman et al. does not disclose the claimed features of: wherein the first communication format and the first signaling format

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comprise GR-303; wherein the first communication format comprises time division multiplexing; wherein the first signaling format comprises BISDN; wherein the first communication format comprises an electrical format and the second communication format comprises an optical format; wherein the second communication format comprises ATM; wherein the selected service comprises an internet service; wherein the signaling processor is configured to process the signaling to select an identifier for asynchronous communications and the interworking unit is configured to convert the communications for the call using the selected identifier; wherein the signaling processor is configured to process the signaling to select a VPI/VCI and the interworking unit is configured to convert the communications for the call a DSO and the selected VPI/VCI. Budhraj et al. discloses a system for managing fiber to the curb network comprising the following features: wherein the first communication format and the first signaling format comprise GR-303; wherein the first communication format comprises time division multiplexing; wherein the first signaling format comprises BISDN; wherein the first communication format comprises an electrical format and the second communication format comprises an optical format; wherein the second communication format comprises ATM; wherein the selected service comprises an internet service; wherein the signaling processor is configured to process the signaling to select an identifier for asynchronous communications and the interworking unit is configured to convert the communications for the call using the selected identifier; wherein the signaling processor is configured to process the signaling to select a VPI/VCI and the interworking unit is configured to convert the communications for the call a DSO and the selected VPI/VCI. See Fig. 1, column 3-6, 11-12. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system of Reiman et

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al. by using the features, as taught by Budhraj et al., in order to provide an efficient data communication system.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-42 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kwang B. Yao whose telephone number is 703-308-7583. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 703-305-4366. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

KWANG BIN YAO
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Kwang B. Yao
March 26, 2003